

NEW YORK HERALD.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

CARLETON GARDEN.—M. JULIEN'S CONCERTS.

BROADWAY THEATRE.—LADY OF LYONS.—BOX AND CUB.—MARRIED AND SETTLED.

BOWERY THEATRE.—BOWERY.—SALVATOR ROSA.—PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.

MIRLO'S, Broadway.—GENIEVE.—MEDINA.

BURTON'S THEATRE.—Chambers street.—MIDY ASHER.—KING'S GARDENER.—FOOT FILLOUSO.—THE LAUGHING HYENA.

NATIONAL THEATRE.—Chatham street.—WEDS.—CRIME.—BLACKBIRTH OF ANTEWERP.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.—Broadway.—WILD CATS.—WHO SPEAKS FIRST.

AMERICAN MUSEUM.—Afternoon.—THE ROYAL OF EGYPT.—VALLEY OF THE PHAROS.—ON THE CHILD OF THE WIND.

CHRISTIE'S AMERICAN OPERA HOUSE, 47 Broadway.—STYLISH MIMICRY BY CHRISTIE'S MINSTRELS.

WOOD'S MINSTREL HALL, 44 Broadway.—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELS.—Ballets of UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.

BUCKLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, 133 Broadway.—BUCKLEY'S ETHIOPIAN OPERA TROUPE.

MR. NICHOLAS EXHIBITION ROOM.—CONFLAGRATION OF NEW YORK.—A FEW CENTIMES.

WHOLE WORLD, 37 and 39 Broadway.—Afternoon and Evening.

JONES'S PANTSCOPES.—APOLLO ROOMS.

New York, Friday, May 19, 1854.

The News.

Our despatch from Washington contains information concerning the Minister from Honduras who is shortly expected. We have alluded to this matter in an editorial article.

The most important item of political intelligence this morning is the announcement of the resignation of Senator Everett. His health is the cause assigned for this step. Hon. Rufus Choate has resigned the office of Attorney General of Massachusetts, and it is not improbable he may be selected to fill the post vacated by Mr. Everett.

In the Senate yesterday the consideration of the proposition to print the debates in some of the drowsy journals of the capital was resumed, and to the credit of that body be it said, the entire trio of organs was thrown overboard inconspicuously. The *Daily Globe* has been settled upon, by a sort of compromise, as the vehicle for conveying the political essays delivered in the Senate to the public. We trust the three disappointed editors and their imitators will derive some comfort from the severe admonitions of Mr. Toombs. A memorial of Senator Atchaf for the allowance of a claim rejected by the late Board of Commissioners on Mexican claims was presented. The merits of this case have been already considered by a select committee. Mr. Douglas intends offering a substitute for the bill already before the Senate reorganizing the judiciary system.

In the House yesterday a message was received from the President, transmitting the correspondence between our government and those of European countries relative to the rights of neutrals. The first letter is from the British Minister, and conveys the hope that the resolution come to by his government and that of France will be received with satisfaction by the United States, and also that the citizens of this country will abstain from any measure opposed to a strict neutrality. Our readers are already acquainted with the orders in council of the British government on this subject. Mr. Marcy, in reply, expresses the gratification of his government at the qualified sanction, by the two Powers, of the principle that free ships make free goods, and states that it would have been enhanced if the rule announced would be observed, not only in the present war, but in every future war, that it might hereafter become an established principle of international law. He proposes to unite with the other maritime Powers in a declaration to that effect, and assures the British Minister that, while observing the strictest neutrality, his government will claim the full enjoyment of its rights. The correspondence likewise embraces a letter from the Secretary of State to our Minister to Russia, in regard to the course this government will pursue in the existing war, and desires him to ascertain the views of the Czar as to the proposed understanding between the maritime nations on the subject of the rights of neutrals on the basis proposed by the United States. The committee having in charge the subject of employing officers of the army in superintending the construction of public works reported. The conclusions arrived at are said to be favorable to the restoration of civilians to that description of public service. The discussion on the Nebraska bill was continued. Mr. Peckham, one of the national democrats from this State, defined his position towards the administration. His remarks were justly severe.

The arrival of the Europa, with later news from Europe, may be expected during the day. She is now over due.

The details of the news recently received from Mexico are published this morning, and will be found exceedingly interesting. The accounts as to Santa Anna's position are conflicting, but the most authentic agree that it is extremely critical. It is quite evident that Alvarez has out-manoeuvred his antagonist, intercepted his correspondence, and cut off his supplies. Insurrections were constantly breaking out in the States, and the appointment of a new executive was discussed even in the capital. The statement of the success of the troops sent against Acapulco is disbelieved, and by many regarded as a fabrication. Two vessels of war had been sent to blockade that port, which is confirmed by the report brought by the steamship *George Law* about a week since. Every element of revolution seems to be in full activity in the dominions of his Serene Highness; but whether any change can better the condition of that distracted country the events of the past or the prospects of the future afford but a faint hope.

The election fraud case was continued in the Court of General Sessions yesterday, before the Recorder. Up to the adjournment of the Court seventy-eight witnesses had been examined for the prosecution, who testified to their voting for Cumming H. Tucker. W. A. White, one of the witnesses, explaining the general conduct of the inspectors, swore that when he handed his tickets in Murray, one of the defendants, opened and read them before they were dropped into the boxes. The case for the defence will be commenced to-day, when several witnesses will be examined to sustain the conduct of the defendants while acting in their capacity as inspectors of Election.

William Hayes, charged with the murder of Dr. Lufener, was discharged from custody yesterday, the District Attorney having entered a *nolle prosequi*. The trial of Andrew Williams, indicted for the murder of his wife, was commenced yesterday in the Court of Oyer and Terminer. The testimony for the prosecution is not yet concluded.

We had another wet, dull, misty day yesterday. In the morning the rain came down with a rush; but it held up at about nine o'clock, and only threatened to renew the fall of the waters during the remainder of the day. After midnight it was wet and dry alternately, but sufficiently showery to make an umbrella useful. Until after midnight the heavens were black with clouds, making it difficult to guess whether it would rain or shine to-day.

Our list of maritime disasters is continued to-day with scarcely an exception, each vessel arriving at this port for the past week has reported the loss of spars, sails, boats, and also in many instances every movable article on deck. Terrible hurricanes, memorable icebergs and dense fogs, have been encountered by navigators this season to a degree un-

precedented; and to the last cause may perhaps be attributed the stranding of the packet ship *Montezuma*, from Liverpool for this port, on Wednesday evening, on Fire Island beach. She had four hundred emigrant passengers on board, all of whom it was thought could be safely landed. The ship William Layton, of and for this port from Antwerp, also went ashore, near Squan Inlet, early yesterday morning. She had nearly five hundred passengers on board. We do not apprehend any loss of life will result from these casualties, as assistance will probably reach the ships before any unfavorable change in the weather takes place. There is a report that the bark *Copelan* is ashore at Squan beach, but we have no particulars. Several other vessels are supposed to have gone on shore during the fogs that have recently prevailed.

A brief telegraphic despatch received last night, and published this morning, informs us of the capturing and destruction of the suspension bridge at Wheeling, Virginia, by the storm of Wednesday evening, which appears to have been exceedingly violent over a vast extent of country. This suspension bridge was swung across the main arm of the Ohio river at Wheeling, that branch of the river flowing around the other side of the island being crossed by an ordinary bridge upon piers. If we are not mistaken, the length of this suspension bridge between the main shore at Wheeling and the island was some twelve hundred feet, and was hung at an elevation of one hundred feet or more above low water, to enable the steamers to pass under with their smoke stacks. But notwithstanding this elevation the bridge was indicted by the Pennsylvanians interested in the trade of Pittsburgh as a nuisance, and the result was a long trial before the United States courts. The courts, we believe, pronounced judgment against the bridge; but we presume the matter must have been subsequently accommodated between the litigants, for the bridge has continued, under a stay of execution, until the storm which is reported to have blown it over and thrown it down. A memorial was circulated on "Change for signatures yesterday, praying Congress to alter the law fixing seven days for discharging vessels, and reducing the time to six.

Considerable interest was manifested yesterday at the Police Court respecting the anticipated developments to be made during the investigation of witnesses in the "Know-Nothing" affair. Justice Osborn, in consequence of the large number of persons present, held the examination in the Court of Sessions room. The evidence of Mr. Ferris was the only one taken, which amounted to but very little, as he could not identify the persons whom he saw take away the trunk. Other witnesses are to be examined this afternoon. A report of the proceedings will be found elsewhere, together with an account of some of the ceremonies of the mysterious Order.

The New York Herald—Progress of American Journalism.

The proprietor of the *HERALD* contemplates leaving the country within a few weeks, for Europe, for the purpose of effecting arrangements with correspondents at the various points of interest during the war. The improvements which are now in progress in the organization of the foreign department of this journal are of so extensive a nature that it may perhaps be worth while to mention a few of them in this place. The war in Europe is naturally the first topic which excites interest. Unfortunately for newspapers, the war is scattered over so large an extent of country that a whole army of correspondents is required to keep trace of the belligerents. One is short allowance for the Baltic; and two are indispensable for the operations on the Danube, even supposing them to be no further extended than they now are. When the allied army breaks up the camp at Gallipoli, another of the staff must be detached to follow their movements. The Black Sea will occupy the whole attention of another; and the military operations in Asia, threatening, as they will, the road to the eastern possessions of Great Britain, will afford ample occupation for one or two more. While these are busied in the field, another class of men will be entrusted with different and more important duties. On them will devolve the duty of watching the movements of the governments and people of Europe. Some notion of the responsibility of their office may be gathered from the fact that an able correspondent, now stationed at Berlin or Vienna, might foretell the course which the German Powers will take in the present quarrel, at least a fortnight or a month sooner than the public will know it; and thus solve the momentous problem which is holding the commercial and political world in such suspense. He could not of course form a reliable judgment without aid from intelligent assistants and subordinates. He would need to communicate freely with the other continental capitals, and to be perfectly familiar with the progress as well of public sentiment as of private official intrigue in all. Such a man, possessed of the qualities which constitute the value of a newspaper correspondent—active, energetic, unweary, endowed with unblinking impudence, master of every language, and conversant with the history of every State, and every political leader in Europe—would throw a light on the war for which every intelligent man would be grateful. Possessed of as much information as any government, and enjoying over kings and ministers the advantage of being disinterested, his letters would be the oracle as well of the whole mercantile community as of the general reading public throughout the world. We have no hesitation in affirming that no such man is to be found in the array of able writers who correspond for the British press. Fear, favor, and interest constantly bias their thoughts and enchain their pen; all the news we in this country receive through their medium is necessarily warped and refracted by their own hopes, wishes and apprehensions. In view of the importance of the struggle, the proprietor of the *HERALD* thinks that his own time cannot be better spent than in directing the vast machine of his European correspondence in person; and we anticipate the most satisfactory results from his journey.

Besides these new contributors, we expect valuable assistance from a small corps of writers who were despatched to China some weeks ago. One of these will travel throughout the interior of that vast empire and chronicle the progress of the pending revolution—an event whose importance to the world at large exceeds even that of the European war. Others will remain at the seaports, whence they will send us the latest commercial intelligence. From their combined efforts we hope to have by far the most complete account of Chinese affairs published in any journal. We have already received and published one installment of correspondence; those who take the trouble to compare it with the news contained in the Chinese newspapers of the same dates will soon perceive how far we shall outstrip the local press.

Next to China, and the East, the British possessions on the continent of Asia command attention at the present moment. The discussion of the renewal of the East India Company's charter, the conquest of Birma, and the strong probability of some movement being made

either in the Punjab or on the northeastern frontier of Hindostan by the Asiatic tribes in the interest of Russia, have attracted to that quarter of the globe a degree of interest which our present information most imperfectly supplies. Should the Czar instigate a fresh rising of the Sikhs, or should the inhabitants of Bokhara descend upon Peshawar, while Great Britain is engaged in Europe—and both events seem very likely—the British tenure of Hindostan would become very precarious, and events of very serious importance to the commercial interests of this country might occur within a very short period. We therefore propose to have a commissioner travel through the British possessions, in order to watch the movements of men and races there. Should any war break out in that quarter, we think we shall have information of the fact in advance of any other journal not only in this city but in the world.

These are a few of the arrangements which we are on the point of making, and which were referred to in the notice published yesterday. We have concluded and are concluding others, of which, for obvious reasons, we can say nothing in this place. Altogether we venture to say that our readers never had so fair a prospect of receiving the earliest and most reliable news in our columns. These arrangements cannot be made for nothing. Correspondents—to be fit for the duty—require to be well remunerated, and travelling is expensive. We estimate that the changes and additions we are about making to our force, domestic and foreign, will raise our yearly expenditures from some four hundred thousand dollars to four hundred and fifty thousand, or perhaps half a million—a larger sum, we think, than has ever yet been spent on any newspaper in the world in twelve months.

We incur this fresh responsibility, and make this new venture with confident convictions of its success. We might have continued to employ our present force, and relied upon our former sources for information of the events now taking place in the world; and had we thus adhered to the old rule that *le mieux est l'ennemi du bien*, every business man knows that our profits would have increased year by year, and our position in the press remained the same. We have refused to set the example of conservatism. Age has not yet so far impaired our energy that we shrink from once more leading the American press in a new channel of enterprise. We only require public support—and we believe we can command it—to ensure our success.

Twenty years ago, the journals of the United States, and more especially of New York, were in a very low condition as respects influence and circulation. In this great metropolis, not a single journal had over three thousand subscribers; and the aggregate circulation of the whole did not exceed 25,000 copies daily. In twenty years, a total and complete revolution has been effected, both as regards influence and circulation. Then, a few only read the paper; and few people more than one; now every one reads, and most people subscribe to several. Then every journal was under the control of a certain set of politicians, whose mouth piece it was, and who dictated to the editor what he should write. Nineteen years ago, when this journal was established, the struggle between intellect and partisanship commenced, and the latter is now completely vanquished. Now, the most influential journals of this city dictate to parties instead of receiving their mandates or submitting to their censorship. Then, the mind of the editor was shackled, and his liberty of speech barred against the dollars of his subscribers. Now, newspapers make public opinion, and impose laws on their former censors.

The consequence of this silent revolution has been to make the New York press the centre and focus of public opinion in the United States. The tendency of civilized man is always towards intellectual centralization; we see it nowhere more clearly exemplified than in the newspaper press. The press of Paris is the opinion of France with all its shades and varieties; that of London is the voice of the British people; and in like manner, within the last twenty years, the New York press, representing every faction, every variety of sentiment, embodies the thoughts of the people of the whole Union. Half a dozen leading daily journals in this city give the most faithful reflection of the minds of the twenty million of American people that can be found. Washington was at one time the political focus of the country; it is now merely a sort of arena where the ideas of the New York press are discussed, and acted upon. The great mind of the country is here. More yet remains to be done, however, to make the triumph complete; but few years will elapse before that too is accomplished.

THE PRESIDENT'S ORGAN AND THE CUBAN QUESTION.—The Washington *Union* flames and splutters like a Congreve rocket, against Spain and her alleged designs, under the guidance of England for the Africanization of Cuba. It threatens all sorts of horrible things if the attempt to fasten the nuisance of negro emancipation upon Cuba is persevered in, and flatteringly declares that the experiment shall never be carried out. We very much fear, however, that this blast of war from the administration trumpet, is

Like a tale told by an idiot,
Full of sound and fury, signifying nothing.

What we want is less bluster and more action in reference to Cuban affairs. We want a firm, dignified, positive and practical American policy put into practice. The country is tired of this rant and cant of the Washington organ. It is vulgar, undignified, and calculated to sink the government in public opinion, at home and abroad. The blustering of the bragadoles does not become the official paper of such a government as ours. It is unworthy the dignity and majesty of this great republic. There is no shadow of justification for such wrath and vengeance on the part of the organ, while the administration itself knows not what to do. When the hen has laid an egg she may cackle.

UNCLE SAM TAKING A START OUT OF THE BRAZILIANS.—A short time since the commander of the *Waterwitch*, an American steamer engaged in the survey of the La Plata and Paraguay rivers, obtained permission from the President Lopez to use the Paraguayan flag with a view to facilitating his operations on the latter. Whether purposely or inadvertently, Captain Page ran some two or three hundred miles further into the Brazilian territory, causing a prodigious sensation and alarm amongst the natives, who doubtless apprehended an armed invasion. The circumstance, although we presume easily explainable, occasioned a confusion on the part of President Lopez who refused to see the Captain on his return. The *Waterwitch* has since left those waters.

The Science of Destruction.—The New Engines of War.

It is a curious proof of the poverty of ideas which distinguishes our boasted progress in civilization, that we are continually obliged to revert to the works and discoveries of the ancients for the first principles of most of our modern inventions. In the fine arts not only do we derive all the elements of our knowledge from a period which, in other respects, may be said to have been allied with barbarism, but we have succeeded in making no advance upon the models bequeathed to us by the pure and classic taste of the Greek and Roman schools. The mechanical skill displayed in the colossal structures of the Egyptians and Assyrians, are even at this day objects of wonder and admiration; whilst in the physical sciences the Arabs and Hindoos had treasured closely upon some of the most valuable discoveries of our own day. In chemistry, more particularly, the Hindoos attained an early proficiency, the use and properties of most of the metallic oxides being known to them at a period when the European nations were wholly ignorant of their properties. Although they have made little or no progress since the period we refer to, their dyes, compounded of the same chemical agents that were used centuries ago, are still unsurpassed for their purity and brilliancy; whilst the productions of their looms exceed in delicacy of fabric and harmonious distribution of colors all that the multiplied mechanical resources of European or American manufacturers have been able to produce.

The same remark which applies to the useful arts, would seem to find illustration in those alleged modern discoveries which are destined, we are told, to alter the whole system of modern warfare, and scatter destruction and death by wholesale, where heretofore the results were only partial. In the same benevolent spirit, no doubt, which led an amiable and philanthropic French physician to invent the machine of which such terrible use was made during the first revolution, and which has conferred such an unenviable immortality on his name, the ingenuity of certain curiously constructed minds has, ever since the last war, been perseveringly directed towards the discovery of new agents, or the perfection of old ones, by which the process of extermination might be rendered more extensive and certain in its effects. These destroyers of the human race claim the credit of philanthropic motives; but we never could appreciate the value of the arguments on which this assumption is founded. They say that by rendering war more certain and terrible in its effects, they will increase the reluctance of mankind to embark in it; but they forget that the ambition of rulers, and the thirst of conquest on the part of warlike nations, will never be arrested by humane calculations, and that unless the common sense of the world combines to impose limits to these impulses, all other devices and checks must fail.

In these terrible inventions, however, respecting which so much vague apprehension and curiosity exist, and which, if we are to believe their authors, will do more to establish the real equilibrium of power than all the protocols, alliances and armed confederacies that have been called into action to maintain it, may be detected the same barbarisms from the so-called barbarous and crude notions of the ancients that are traceable in most other modern inventions. Our readers no doubt recollect all the fuss and noise that was made a few years ago about the alleged discoveries of Captain Warner, which it was asserted would blow up and destroy, at some incredible distance, not only whole fleets, but the strongest fortifications, and which were to confer the mastery of the seas on the nation that would give the enormous price stipulated for them. The subject, after occupying the attention of the English Parliament, was referred, if we recollect rightly, to a commission composed of military and naval officers, who reported unfavorably upon it. Although the present Earl Talbot attempted several times since to revive it, and even threw out intimations that there was danger of these inventions being offered to other Powers, the whole affair was treated with contempt, and Captain Warner himself consigned to oblivion. His name has, however, again been lately brought into notice by the fact of a large number of mysterious looking tin packages having been shipped on board the vessels composing the Baltic fleet, and which the ready imagination of some London penny-liner, sent down to Spithead to chronicle the incidents of the departure of the fleet, converted into a stock of the captain's death-dealing missiles. They will no doubt turn out in due course to be as effective *materiel* of war, but *materiel* composed of preserved beef, with a due accompaniment of that new item in the commissariat list—concentrated beer.

Although Captain Warner endeavored to surround his discoveries with all the mystery and secrecy which their alleged importance and the modest amount of the purchase money demanded from the English government rendered consistently prudent, yet it soon leaked out that they were nothing more than modifications of a fire missile invented as far back as the seventh century, and which, although described by historians as being most destructive in its results, is, in this age of effective artillery and steam, totally inapplicable to the purposes of modern warfare. The objects of Captain Warner's adaptations were to carry out the spirit of Mrs. Glass's celebrated receipt, and to catch his hare before he cooked it, by bringing the enemy within range of his infernal machines; but he failed utterly to convince the thick-headed officers who composed the commission that he could give practical effect to his benevolent views. And so the Greek fire seemed destined to remain a subject of passing speculation to the historical student, whilst Captain Warner's "long range" found a place amongst English proverbs.

Another candidate for pyrotechnic fame has, however, just started up in the person of Professor Jacobi, who, it appears, has been lending the aid of his ill-directed scientific talents to the Czar, and inventing submarine batteries for the protection of the Russian ports in the Baltic and Black Seas. Although the accounts given of these new contrivances are not very clear, it would seem as if the invention of the old Syrian engineer Callinicus were to play a part in them, aided by the explosive qualities of gunpowder and the invisible agency of the electric wire. The Greek fire, as our readers are probably aware, has the properties of burning briarstick in water, and of diffusing itself on all sides, according to the direction given it. These combustible elements are enclosed in strong iron chests, and sunk in the sea, a galvanic battery, connected with them by means of wires, being fixed outside. Above the chest is some machinery, which, on being touched by the keel

of a passing vessel, causes the galvanic wires to come in contact with the explosive. A hundred yards of wire of this kind are said to have been sunk in the channel leading to Cronstadt, so that with the knowledge of such alarming contrivances being likely to rub against his ship's bottom, we do not wonder at Sir Charles Napier being rather uneasy about his soundings.

Age of enlightenment and progress, to what original developments will you next give birth!

THE MINISTER FROM HONDURAS, AND HIS MISSION.—Don Jose Barrundia, a distinguished republican chieftain of Honduras, and formerly President of that country, arrived at Mobile the other day, en route for Washington, as Minister from the independent State of Honduras to the government of the United States. This will give us three representatives at Washington from the fragments of the old republican confederation of Central America—Senor Marcoleta from Nicaragua; Senor Molina from Guatemala and Costa Rica; and Senor Barrundia from Honduras.

The immediate objects of the mission of Senor Barrundia, according to our telegraphic information from Washington, involves, first, an alliance between the United States and Honduras, which will comprehend most of the material advantages of annexation; secondly, an interoceanic railway across the State of Honduras, and such other commercial regulations as may be best calculated to develop the resources of Honduras, and to increase its traffic with this country. These are legitimate objects of negotiation, and under ordinary circumstances, in the hands of such a man as Barrundia, there could be little doubt of his success in weaving them into a commercial treaty. But the interests of the Nicaragua line may operate against any railroad interoceanic communication across Honduras. Then, again, that State is at war with Guatemala and Costa Rica; and the minister from the latter two may, perhaps, find it his policy to counteract any exclusive political arrangements between our government and that of Senor Barrundia.

Notwithstanding these embarrassments, however, it is high time that we should do something to secure at least the independence, such as it is, of the several Central American States. Mr. Clayton in his treaty with Sir Henry Bulwer, did nothing but get us into an entangling alliance with England; Major Borland is on his way home from his roving mission without extracting us from these entanglements. His treaty recognizing the Mosquito Coast, as an integral part of the State of Nicaragua, appears to have been coolly thrown into the old barrel of waste papers in our State Department. This is equivalent to the acknowledgment of the British protectorate over the Mosquito kingdom, as a district of country wholly independent of the State of Nicaragua, notwithstanding all the democratic protestations in the United States Senate to the contrary. This point having been thus conceded to England by our administration, it is not very likely that Mr. Buchanan is either instructed or expected to do anything to cut us loose from our joint protectorate of the Clayton treaty.

Still the affairs of the Central American States call for the prompt attention of our government, especially of the States of Guatemala and Honduras, which border upon those of Mexico, and which it is alleged Santa Anna designs incorporating into his empire as soon as his expected funds from the Gadsden treaty will enable him to venture upon the spoliation. The true policy of our government would be to use its good offices with all three of the Ministers from Central America, to restore the republican confederation of these States upon a solid footing, under a common central government. Thus they might become a powerful republic in the course of time, strong enough to protect themselves against all foreign encroachments, and sufficiently stable to render them respectable in the eyes of the world. Cut up as they are at present, there is neither co-operation among them against their foreign enemies, nor peace among themselves.

We trust that the mission of Senor Barrundia will comprehend not only the immediate local interests of Honduras, but the more important objects of a reconciliation among her neighbors, and the restoration of the Central American Union upon a sound and durable platform. His character and antecedents as an able statesman and diplomat render him abundantly qualified to undertake this important duty, with a reasonable prospect of complete success.

SENTENCE OF THE COURT MARTIAL ON MAJOR WYSE.—A Wall street cotemporary seems to think that the President will remit Major Wyse's sentence, and speaks as though it had some private intimation of the fact. We do not know what the President will do; but a clearer case than that disclosed on the trial of Major Wyse, we never remember to have read. Guilty of the grossest insubordination and breach of discipline he undoubtedly was; no soldier ever more so. If he is to escape unpunished, what shall hereafter constitute a punishable offence in a military man? If an officer is to be permitted to disobey orders as deliberately as Major Wyse did, what becomes of the efficiency of the service and the discipline of the army? Better disband it altogether than establish the principle that every officer shall have the right of exercising his private judgment on the orders of his superior.

THE WASHINGTON SENTINEL, THE SENATE AND THE ADMINISTRATION.—From the debate in the Senate of the United States, the other day, upon the question of making the Washington *Sentinel* an official publisher of the proceedings and debates of the Senate, there were some refreshing truths told by Messrs. Bright and Waller (hard shells), of the condition of the democratic party. The *Sentinel* had had the audacity to denounce Benjamin F. Butler and his speech at the abolition meeting in the Park last Saturday, in favor of Seward for the Presidency, over Douglas, and had dared to speak of Butler and the New York Van Buren free soilers, and General Pierce and Secretary Marcy, as all of the same kidney. Mr. Stuart, of Michigan, called the attention of the Senate to this outrage upon the administration; but to his astonishment, Messrs. Bright and Waller endorsed the *Sentinel*, and declared that the salvation of the democratic party could only be effected by a thorough purging.

This is what we have maintained for months past; but now that the question is officially and openly taken up in the Senate, we shall expect something to be done to reorganize the democratic party upon a national Union platform, with or without the administration. Had the Senate met the same several months since, it would have saved a vast amount of trouble to all concerned. But it is not yet too late to save

force a distinct and unequivocal understanding with the administration. The Nebraska bill will not answer. If Benjamin F. Butler, the right hand man of the Van Burens, has gone over to Seward, why should not his free soil associates, office holders and cabinet members included, be allowed to follow him? That is the question before the Senate, and we shall expect them to act upon it. Calomel and jalap are the proper prescription for the democratic party. Let it be purged.

GREAT DEMAND FOR RAGS.—A WORD OF ADVICE TO HOUSEKEEPERS.—Very few besides those engaged in the manufacture and sale of paper, realize the importance of rags to the business community, and there are none, perhaps, who are more directly affected by a decrease in the supply than newspaper establishments. To prove this, it is only necessary to state that in the printing of the *HERALD* about forty thousand pounds of paper are used every week; and in the manufacture of this amount not less than sixty thousand pounds of rags are required. Four or five years ago one paper mill supplied four newspaper offices in this city; but since then, so immense has been the increase in the circulation of the *HERALD*, that this mill cannot manufacture sufficient paper to supply our demands. Every year we pay over two hundred thousand dollars for paper, and for the rags consumed in the manufacture of this paper at least one hundred and fifty thousand are paid by the manufacturer. Whether there is a scarcity in the article at present, or the demand for paper has exceeded the supply of rags, we know not, but we do know that the price of the former has been considerably increased within the past year. Rags are now selling at from four to six cents a pound, according to the quality, and even old newspapers can be sold for two cents and a half a pound.

In view of these facts, we have a few words to say to housekeepers, both in and out of New York. If we compute the number of families in this city at eighty thousand, and calculate the amount of rags produced by each at a pound and a half per week—a moderate estimate—we will have a total of one hundred and twenty thousand pounds, or about five thousand dollars' worth. In this estimate we do not include the supply which is obtained in the form of clippings from tailors' shops, dressmakers, and all establishments where the needle and scissors are indispensable. What we would say to housekeepers, then, is, that they should carefully preserve their rags, or, that rather than destroy them by burning, they will throw them into the streets for the rag pickers.

THE KNOW-NOTHING EXCITEMENT.—THE CASE OF ELLIOTT AND OTHERS.—New York is a great place for wonders, mysteries, and tremendous excitements. It is a remarkable fact, however, that these wonders hardly ever attain the legitimate age of nine days. After a day or two of brilliancy, they sink like a bright exhalation in the evening, and are seen no more.

The last of these absorbing topics is the "Know-Nothing" excitement, and it reached its present magnitude by the usual means—the public journals—the *Courier* and *Enquirer* being one of the instruments used for the purpose.

It is alleged that there exists in this and other cities, an extensive secret organization, having for its object the elevation of native born Americans to all posts of political influence; the retrenchment of the power and property of the Roman Catholic Church, and the further protection of the ballot box from what are called the "insidious wiles of foreign influence." Three or four days since the *Courier* and *Enquirer* published a letter, purporting to be a copy of one received by a Roman Catholic priest. The writer promises to put the priest in possession of all the signs, grips, pass-words, tokens and manner of work of a secret society, of which order he (the writer) is a high officer, and which order has for its ultimate object the overthrow of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States. All this valuable information was to be given for the modest sum of ten thousand dollars. The "priest" refused, for certain good and sufficient reasons, and the letter was published without signature. It is further alleged that the order referred to was the "Know Nothing" order; that certain members of that order suspected that Mr. John E. Elliott was the writer of the letter, and that these persons made a forcible entry into the premises occupied by Mr. Elliott, and therein seized and carried away a trunk containing documents, rituals, seals, &c., the property of the order, and also certain personal property belonging to him. Mr. Elliott denied the statement relative to his connection with the letter, and he made affidavit that to the best of his knowledge and belief three persons—Messrs. Sleight, Allen and Morse—were the individuals who seized his property. These persons were arrested and examined before Mr. Justice Osborne, yesterday. The examination was held in the court room formerly occupied for the Sessions, and it was crowded to excess. The people, invited thereto by the delicate wit and playful sarcasm of the leader for the defence, indulged in noisy demonstrations of applause, which produced several scenes disgraceful in a court of justice.

The *HERALD* reporters have given full notice of the evidence, which appear in the proper place. The evidence does not throw much light upon the various interesting subjects which go to make up the excitement. The corpus of the prosecution's case was not well sustained, and their main witness was not by any means certain in his evidence. He could identify but one of the accused persons (Mr. Allen), and the charge of burglary, as far as the others are concerned, was abandoned by the counsel for the prosecution. The examination is to be continued this afternoon.

The whole affair seems to be a humbug. Mr. Elliott says he has received threatening letters—that pistols have been discharged near his head, and so forth. All these threatnings go for naught among sensible, practical men of the world.

Appended to the report of the proceedings at the Halls of Justice, will be found a condensation of a pamphlet purporting to be an *exposé* of the "Secret Order of Know-Nothings." It deserves record as one of the ridiculous features of a ridiculous affair; and, notwithstanding its absurdity, it may be *bona fide*. It is unnecessary to say, after recent revelations, that the crop of fools is as luxuriant as ever.

In our time we have seen several political sects arise, flourish and fall. Some of them do not flourish, but they always fall. After the first flush of victory jealousy creeps into the camp, and the shabby edifice falls to pieces, never to rise again, or, at least, never in the same manner. Eight years ago the native American party achieved temporary success in New York, Boston and Philadelphia. These